

# Health News Release

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## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Look up a healthcare provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the Department of Health website (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

## **Chelan County**

In September 2014 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Tiffany E. Leach** (RN00161236) that requires her to take part in a substance abuse monitoring program. Leach didn't comply with a previous substance abuse monitoring contract that she agreed to after she admitted diverting controlled substances from the hospital where she worked.

## **Clark County**

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified nursing assistant credential to **Shinkcole Tervaris Evans** (NC60479002) and placed him on probation for at least two years. In 2004 the Oregon State Board of Nursing revoked his certification in that state. Evans had a personal and sexual relationship with a client.

In September 2014 the Massage Program ended conditions on the credential of massage practitioner **Brandy Mae Thawsh**, also known as Brandy M. Layson and Brandy M. Peterson (MA60287471).

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## **Cowlitz County**

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the registered nursing assistant credential of **Kristen J. Futter**, also known as Kristen J. Traub (NA00187527). Her license was suspended for five years in 2007 for abusing a patient and not cooperating with an investigation. A patient asked Futter to get a washcloth to wipe the patient's eyes. Futter swore at the patient and, after getting the washcloth, used it to rub the patient's eyes so roughly that the patient was in pain. Futter didn't respond to an investigator's inquiries.

## **Grays Harbor County**

In September 2014 the Health Care Assistant and Medical Assistant programs ended conditions on the credentials of health care assistant and medical assistant-hemodialysis technician **Roberto Ramirez** (HC60101255, HT60374633).

In September 2014 the Osteopathic Board charged osteopathic physician **David Charles Jester** (OP0000936) with unprofessional conduct. While following-up with a patient he had treated in a hospital emergency department, Jester allegedly offered to bring her medication he had prescribed. Charges say that at her residence, Jester had sexual contact with the patient, kissed her, touched her inappropriately, and suggested that she take part in sexual activity.

## **Island County**

In September 2014 the Dental Hygiene Program ended probation for dental hygienist **Anita Lee Rodriguez** (DH00001530).

#### **King County**

In September 2014 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse and registered nurse **Habib Hariri** (LP00052311, RN60242719) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say he sometimes slept while on night shift duty at a skilled nursing facility.

In September 2014 the Chiropractic Commission modified an agreement with chiropractor **Lawrence P. Stanton** (CH00002345) that extends his probation and the time he has to pay a \$5,000 fine until June 2016.

In October 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional credential to **Jeannette Wyatt** (CP60499386) and placed her on probation. Wyatt must continue to comply with a 2013 agreement that requires her to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program until she is released.

In September 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Ashley Friedrich** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Charges say Friedrich, who doesn't have a dental assistant credential, worked in a dental office where she took X-rays of patients, assisted with fillings and root canals, made temporaries, and did cord packing around patients' gums.

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In September 2014 the Massage Program denied a massage practitioner credential to **Xiao Yu Ji** (MA60389597), who didn't meet the educational requirements.

# **Pierce County**

In September 2014 the Naturopathy Board entered an agreement with naturopathic physician **Thomas James Young** (NT00000558) under which his practice will be monitored for at least 30 months. Young prescribed controlled substances to 10 patients, which is beyond the authorized scope of his license. Young must surrender his U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration registration and may not prescribe any controlled substances during that time. Young must pay a \$3,000 fine, submit an essay about his prescriptive scope of practice and appropriate use of DEA registration, and complete continuing education in professional ethics.

## **Snohomish County**

In September 2014 the X-Ray Technician Program entered an agreement with X-ray technician **Kimberly Lynn Bradley** (XT00004070) that places her credential on probation for at least five years. She used a clinic physician's pre-signed blank prescription forms to order thousands of narcotic medication pills for herself and her husband, but wasn't authorized to do so. The prescriptions weren't for legitimate medical purposes. Bradley must participate in a substance abuse monitoring program, pay a \$5,000 fine, and complete course work in professional law and ethics. Bradley worked at a clinic where she and her husband were both patients.

In September 2014 the Dental Hygiene Program ended probation for dental hygienist **Lynn Allison Clendenen** (DH00002021).

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program granted a certified nursing assistant credential to **Darrel J. Holmquist** (NC60420053) and placed him on probation for three years. While working as a caregiver at a skilled nursing facility, Holmquist took a video of a resident with dementia while the resident was on the toilet, soiled with feces. Holmquist admitted showing the video to three other workers at the facility.

In October 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Maria Jennelle Greene** (CO60463989) and ordered her to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2010 Greene was convicted of third-degree theft, and possession of a controlled substance—methadone. In 2011 she was convicted of two counts of third-degree theft and one count of first-degree criminal trespass.

#### **Whatcom County**

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Lisa M. Castro** (NC10100470) with unprofessional conduct. Castro worked at a retirement and assisted living facility where she cared for a dementia patient. Charges say the patient had an emotional attachment to a doll, believing the toy to be her real child. Castro allegedly took the doll from the patient, repeatedly threw it on the ground and danced with it in front of the patient, distressing the patient. The facility fired Castro from her job.

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## Yakima County

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program entered an agreement with certified nursing assistant **Lesa Marie Hayes** (NC60026779) that lifts her suspension and reprimands her. Hayes worked at a nursing and rehabilitation center. She yelled at a developmentally disabled resident to shut-up and go to sleep, told her to act on her threat to call police, and accused the resident of acting like a two-year-old. The Department of Social and Health Services will not allow Hayes to be employed in caring for or having unsupervised access to vulnerable adults.

#### **Out of State**

**Alaska:** In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant and certified nursing assistant **Geeta Gyitri Prasad** (NA60071369, NC60079411) with unprofessional conduct. Prasad allegedly fell asleep while on duty at the facility where she worked and while responsible for monitoring a resident. Charges say the resident, who was known to wander, left the facility and had to be retrieved from a nearby gas station by another staff member.

**California:** In September 2014 the Medical Commission conditionally granted a medical license to physician **Gene R. Conley** (MD60394336) and ordered him to comply with a substance abuse monitoring contract. Conley, who has a history of drug and alcohol dependence, has been in recovery since 1982, but relapsed in 2000 and 2010.

**Idaho:** In October 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended conditions on the chemical dependency professional trainee credential of **Carrie Ann Burris** (CO60242019).

**Nevada:** In September 2014 the Health Care Assistant Program reinstated the health care assistant credential of **James A. Thornton** (HC00144286), which was revoked in 2007. At that time, Thornton didn't respond to a Department of Health investigator's inquiry after being convicted of domestic violence—assault.

**Oregon:** In September 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner-certified nurse midwife **Rebecca S. Parker** (RN00126126, AP30004962) with unprofessional conduct. In 2013 the Oregon State Board of Nursing placed Parker on probation for at least two years.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.